

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 541

By Pitts

A RESOLUTION to recognize 13-year old Mallory Fundora of
Clarksville, altruist and founder of Project Yesu.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to recognize those youthful Tennesseans who grasp the uniqueness of humanity and actualize infinite possibilities to enrich the well-being of others in their midst and even in the far reaches of this celestial orb; and

WHEREAS, one such intrepid young soul whose extraordinary compassion and actions are wholly deserving of this recognition is Mallory Fundora, who is an 8th-grader at Rossvie Middle School in Clarksville; and

WHEREAS, her inspiration for the incredible work of founding her own non-profit organization, Project Yesu, came in August 2010, when at her church, Grace Community, she heard and met members of the Uganda Orphan Choir; and

WHEREAS, from that experience, Mallory resolved to learn more about the country and people of the faraway place from which her new friends hailed, and perhaps her most profound question of all was: “why there are so many orphans among the children of Uganda”; and

WHEREAS, as Mallory gained knowledge and awareness about the rampant poverty, the scarce educational opportunities, and the ravages the long-term AIDS epidemic have wrought in Ugandan families in the children’s homeland, she envisioned a mission of mercy for which she enlisted the assistance of her family and received the encouragement of her church to intervene to boost the well-being of her long-distance peers; and

WHEREAS, selecting the name Yesu, the Ugandan word for “Jesus” for her organization, Mallory launched Project Yesu to address the needs of Ugandan orphans by providing food, clothing, educational support, and health care; and

WHEREAS, with her mother's unwavering companionship and support, Mallory spent significant time during the Fall of 2012 and Summer of 2013 in Uganda in the midst of those to whom Project Yesu ministers; that time has been beneficial in strengthening relationships and actualizing the infrastructure through which her organization operates; and

WHEREAS, her vision and determination surpasses that of her peers and most who are much her senior; Mallory Fundora has done immeasurable good for youngsters of a third-world nation, which efforts may well enable them to transcend the poverty and lack of education that are birthrights of a vast majority of Ugandans; and

WHEREAS, in September of this year, Mallory received accolades from the Academy of Education Arts and Sciences and the organization Choose2Matter; she was selected the winner of the Bammy Award for Student Initiative, which is modeled after national awards for the performing arts, yet it is focused on youthful altruism of an educational nature; and

WHEREAS, Mallory Fundora is an extraordinary Tennessean; she has exhibited acumen and alacrity in her remarkable endeavors to reach out to others in need of normalcy in their daily lives and opportunities for their future, and her determination to excel in benevolence is inspiring to all; and

WHEREAS, it is timely and appropriate that this legislative body should recognize the beauty of her spirit and fruits of her labor in reaching out to others in need; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize Mallory Fundora for her extraordinary efforts to aid orphaned children in the eastern African nation of Uganda, thank her for her tireless efforts to establish and operate the non-profit organization Project Yesu in that country through which aid is delivered, and extend our best wishes to her for a bright and rewarding future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.